

Mobile Food Vehicle Vendors

Definitions

Mobile Food Vehicle Vendor: A self-contained truck or trailer used to prepare and serve food that is readily movable without disassembling.

Limited Mobile Food Vendor: A vehicle from which prepackaged items such as ice cream, pop and candy are sold.

Mobile Food Cart: A non-motorized push cart that sells prepackaged or ready-to-eat foods on public sidewalks in downtown.

Locations

1. Nicollet Mall

- 11 pre-approved sites
- Vehicle cannot be larger than 8' X 10'
- Cannot set up or move vehicles between 7:00-9:00 am and 4:00-5:30 pm

2. Public Sidewalks must be approved by the Public Works Department

3. Streets

- First come first served basis
- Must comply with all ordinances
- Must pay meter(s)
- May occupy two metered parking spaces
- Trailers may be detached while parked
- Cannot reserve metered parking by blocking spaces

4. Bus Lanes on Marquette & 2nd Ave

- First come first served basis
- May only operate in designated areas
- Hours of operation 10:00 am -2:00 pm
- Must display obstruction permit from Public Works. www.minneapolis.mn.roway.net
- Only one vendor per block

5. Parking lots

- Only one vendor per lot
- Ingress/egress only through existing driveway openings
- Must obtain written consent from lot owner

6. Designated areas outside downtown: www.minneapolismn.gov/business-licensing

7. Park Board property must also obtain a park permit

Location Restrictions

1. Within 100 feet of a restaurant with direct access to sidewalk or sidewalk café on the same block face;
2. Within 500 feet of any festival or civic event;
3. Within 500 feet of an entrance to a regional sports facility;
4. Within 200 feet of park board property unless permit is obtained.

Hours of Operation

1. 6:00 am to midnight
2. 6:00 am to 10:00 pm if the vehicle is located within 300 feet of a residential building.

Business Requirements

1. Obtain City of Minneapolis Mobile Food Vehicle Vendor license.
2. Must have use of a commercial kitchen located in Minneapolis.
3. No external signage, bollards, seating or any other equipment not contained within the vehicle.
4. No sound amplifying equipment, televisions, lights or noisemakers.
5. Generator must be self-contained and screened from view.
6. Operate a minimum of 150 days if located downtown.
7. Clean all litter and garbage.
8. Follow orders of police officer, traffic control agent or regulatory services inspector.
9. Vehicle height may not exceed 10' on sidewalks or 13.5' on street or parking lot.

License Applications

A [Short-Term Food Permit](#) is required if operating at a community based event. The [Mobile Food Vehicle Vendor](#) license application is also available on our website.

What happens if you are in violation?

1. Expect a letter, telephone call or visit from a License Inspector describing the complaint or violation.
2. Take this notice seriously. Call your Inspector for information or solutions.
3. Failure to comply with violation orders may result in citations, fines, suspensions, and revocation of your license to operate.

Questions? Give us a call: 612-673-3000 or 311

A complete set of requirements may be found in the [Minneapolis Code of Ordinances](#) (MCO):

For more information in other languages:

Yog xav paub tshaj nos ntiv, hu 612-673-2800. Macluumaad heeri ah, kala soo xiriir 612-673-3500. Para mas información llame al 612-673-2700.



This brochure was created to provide a brief summary of the City of Minneapolis' business license requirements. It is intended to educate our business partners on ways to protect your company from license violations when operating your mobile food vehicle.